


**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Ambassador Leonhart

**14 MAR 1979**

Attached is a copy of our response to the Senate Select Committee question relating to the Review Panel.

Please be aware that its final form may have been changed.

  
NFAC Plans and Programs Staff

P.S. Just received Comptroller's version, which is also attached. Little change is noted.

Date 14 March 1979

STAT

*Wm Leonhart*

NFAC Plans and Programs Sta

8 March 1979

10. *You indicate in your annual report the establishment of a distinguished review panel to aid in improving the estimative process.*



25X1

a. *How large is this panel, and who are its members?*



25X1

The Deputy Director for National Foreign Assessment has established a Review Panel within the National Foreign Assessment Center (NFAC) to provide an independent, collegial review of intelligence products. This Panel will address major products of both NFAC and the Community with a view to improving their usefulness to the policymakers.



25X1

This newly established Panel consists of three experts having impressive careers in Government, the Military, and Academia:



25X1

Ambassador William Leonhart, a Career Minister, brings abroad background of experience gained from significant assignments in numerous embassies around the world. He has also served on the State Policy Planning Board and the NSC Planning Board, was Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Commandant for International Affairs, National War College. He recently spent two years as Vice President, National Defense University.



25X1

~~SECRET~~



25X1

[redacted] . (US army retired) [redacted] 25X1  
[redacted] 25X1  
[redacted] 25X1

[redacted] a noted academician. [redacted] 25X1  
[redacted] 25X1

The Panel was intentionally kept lean and designed to function totally without the basics of many staffs. For instance, there is no research staff assigned to the Review Panel. The question of increasing the membership of the Panel is still open at this time, but additions, if any, are not anticipated until the present structure is developed beyond the formative stage. [redacted] 25X1

*b. What specific actions have they taken, or caused to be taken, to improve the quality of the analytic product?* [redacted] 25X1

In the short time since its formation (December 1978) the Review Panel has been largely involved in studying the planning and coordination processes of interagency intelligence production and developing procedures

for performing systematic reviews of NFAC and Community analyses. The Panel has also been involved in performing a critical review of major National Intelligence Estimates from their conceptual stage through various draft forms. In the future, the Panel will conduct post-audits of finished intelligence products on its own initiative or at the request of the DCI or DD/NFA. In a broader context, this group expects to become involved in appraising the extent to which the intelligence needs of the Government are being met.

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How large is this panel, and who are its members? ☐

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